



PROGRESS REPORT NO. 55

TO: Helen Bottcher – U.S. Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) - via Email

FROM: Marko Adzic – Teck American Incorporated (TAI)

DATE: February 10, 2011

FILE NO: 01-773180-000

RE: Upper Columbia River (UCR) Remedial Investigation/Feasibility Study
(RI/FS) - Progress Report No. 55 Month Ending January 2011

Pursuant to Paragraph 39 of the June 2, 2006 Settlement Agreement (Agreement), the following is intended to provide a summary of the activities completed during the past month in compliance with the aforementioned Agreement. It is also intended to provide a brief summary of pending and on-going activities.

Amendment No. 2 to the Quality Assurance Project Plan (QAPP) for the *2009 Beach Sediment Study* has been finalized, approved, and posted on the public domain of the project website. Hard copies with accompanying compact discs are being produced and will be distributed per the document distribution list in the very near future. With approval of the amendment, permit applications to complete field sampling activities will be completed and submitted later this month.

The approved Baseline Ecological Risk Assessment (BERA) Work Plan will be finalized, posted on the public domain of the project website, and hard copies distributed in the very near future. Efforts to complete the *Expansion of the Problem Formulation Chapter of the Baseline Ecological Risk Assessment Work Plan* document continue. Consistent with comment clarification discussions between EPA and TAI on January 21st, the following sections identified within the aforementioned document have been amalgamated to improve document flow:

- “COPC Refinement” into the risk analysis plan section;
- “Environmental Fate and Effects of COPCs” into the background information section;
- “Identification of Areas of Interest” into the site description section;
- “Wildlife Receptor Selection” into the risk analysis plan section; and
- “Background Comparison” into the risk analysis plan section.

Collaborative efforts to evaluate the 2010 (water-borne and sediment) white sturgeon data continue. Efforts in drafting of soil and sediments QAPPs continue.

Should you have any questions or require any additional information, please do not hesitate to contact me at 509-892-2585.